

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph on page 1, lines 7-9 following "CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS" with the following amended paragraph:

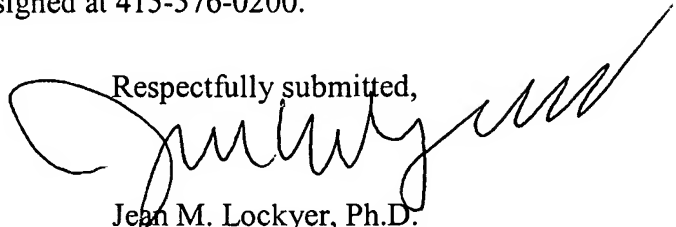
This application [claims priority to US application, serial no. (no yet assigned), having the same title and inventors, filed Mar 18, 1999] is a continuation of US Application No. 09/273,098, filed March 19, 1999, which claims benefit of U.S. Application No. 60/125,591, filed March 18, 1999. Slit compositions are subject to claims in copending US application, serial no. 09/191,647, having the same assignee[:].

Appl. No.
Amdt. dated November 24, 2003
Preliminary Amendment

PATENT

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jean M. Lockyer', is written over the typed name and registration number.

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